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Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of

claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A cannula assembly for use in a surgical procedure,

which comprises:

a housing;

a cannula member defining a longitudinal axis, the cannula member defining a

longitudinal opening therethrough for passage of a surgical instrument; and

a sealing member having proximal and distal faces disposed within the housing,

the sealing member extending across the longitudinal axis of the cannula member and having a

predetermined shape prior to insertion of the instrument, the sealing member comprising a fabric,

the sealing member having an hourglass shape defining an open aperture in an initial condition

thereof for the receipt of the instrument and arranged so that insertion of the instrument causes

the aperture of the sealing member to expand to an expanded condition thereof and resiliently

contact the outer surface of the instrument to form a substantial seal therewith; and

a ring assembly positioned within the housing, the ring assembly including a first ring

member and a second ring member positioned about the sealing member such that the sealing

member is at least partially positioned between the first ring member and the second ring

member, the first ring member being configured and dimensioned for engagement with the

second ring member to inhibit relative movement therebetween.

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Claim 6 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 5 wherein the fabric of the

sealing member comprises an elastic material and is arranged to expand upon engaging the

instrument.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 5 wherein the sealing

member includes a resilient material.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 7 wherein the fabric is

compressed into the resilient material.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 8 wherein the resilient

material is disposed within interstices defined by the fabric such that the resilient material is at

least partially formed with the fabric in an integral manner.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 5 wherein the sealing

member includes a coating to reduce friction between the seal member and the at least one

surgical instrument.

Claim 12 (canceled).

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Claim 13 (currently amended): The assembly of claim [[12]] 5 further comprising

a zero seal in the housing for preventing the configured and dimensioned to substantially inhibit

escape of insufflation gases in the absence of an absent the instrument.

Claims 14-16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 11, wherein the coating

comprises a hydrocyclosiloxane membrane prepared by a plasma polymerization process.

Claims 18-19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): The assembly of claim 5, wherein the sealing

member is non inflatable.

Claim 21 (new): The assembly of claim 5, wherein the first ring member and the

second ring member are configured and dimensioned for engagement in snap-fit relation.

Claim 22 (new): The assembly of claim 5, wherein the first ring member is

disposed adjacent the distal face of the sealing member, and the second ring member is disposed

adjacent the proximal face of the sealing member.

Claim 23 (new): The assembly of claim 22, wherein the first ring member

includes first attachment structure, and the second ring member includes second attachment

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structure configured and dimensioned for engagement with the first attachment structure to

facilitate connection of the first and second ring members.

Claim 24 (new): The assembly of claim 23, wherein at least one of the first and

second attachment structures of the respective first and second ring members extends through the

sealing member.

Claim 25 (new): The assembly of claim 24, wherein the sealing member includes

at least one hole spaced outwardly from the aperture extending through the sealing member, the

at least one hole being configured and dimensioned to receive the attachment structure extending

through the sealing member.

Claim 26 (new): The assembly of claim 23, wherein the first attachment structure

of the first ring member includes at least one post, and the second attachment structure of the

second ring member includes at least one hole configured and dimensioned to receive the at least

one post.

Claim 27 (new): The assembly of claim 23, wherein the first attachment structure

of the first ring member includes at least one first post and at least one first hole, and the second

attachment structure of the second ring member includes at least second post and at least one

second hole, wherein the at least one first hole is configured and dimensioned to receive the at

least one second post, and the at least one second hole is configured and dimensioned to receive

the at least one first post.

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Claim 28 (new): The assembly of claim 5, further including a dampening element secured to the ring assembly, the dampening element being adapted to minimize sound created upon contact between the ring assembly and the housing.

Claim 29 (new): The assembly of claim 28, wherein the dampening element is positioned between a surface of the ring member and a surface of the housing.

Claim 30 (new): The assembly of claim 29, wherein the dampening element is secured to the second ring member.

Claim 31 (new): The assembly of claim 5, wherein the first ring member and the second ring member are formed from a substantially rigid material.